

Spark-Buy Times



The Old Time Club



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JULY 2004

FIRST CLASS MAIL

PAGE 2 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

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PAGE 3 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

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CONTENTS

Application for membership	24
Badge order	23
Election and other Information	5-6
Member Pages	7-18
Member Photographs & other	20-22
Members Since Last Issue	2
Member Supplies	5
OOTC Officers and Directors	3
On The Air Meetings	5
President Message	4
Silent Keys	19
S.E.A.P. Donations	2

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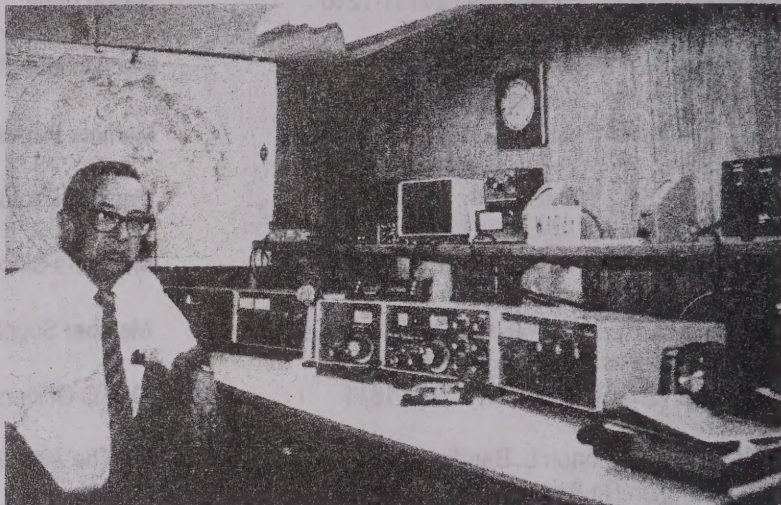
DISTRICT 0 Leo Meyerson, W0Gfq
1210 N. 97th Ct, Omaha, NE 68114-2171
Ph:402-392-1708 w0gfg@juno.com

OOTC PRESIDENT DUNCAN KREAMER, W1GAY.

First licensed W2JMG at age 17 in January 1936. Other calls VP5VAD, 2F2QA/ZBF and KM1CC.

Duncan's neat station was on the cover of the May 1992 issue of Spark Gap Times..

Duncan served as Vice President 1988-1990 and President 1991-1992. He was the Director of the OOTC first district from 1993 through 1999.



GREETINGS FROM PHOENIX MD (not AZ)

We moved here in March 2000 after 30 years at Vineyard Haven, MA where we were very active in the IOTA (Islands On The Air) program on 14260kHz. I turned in my 1936 call W2JMG for W1GAY when we moved to the Vineyard in 1970. Now active on the OOTC net 7232kHz on Thursday 1:30 local time and try to use the old brass straight key often.

Lots of things have changed with OOTC since my term as President 1991-2 but it is refreshing to know that our Club provides a method for old radio pals to recount adventures and it keeps us sharp to recall the important things that have happened to ham radio. Recently during a regular schedule with old pal Jim W2JJM up on the cape, KE2O from Greenwich NY (now a member) broke in. I found out that he was W2JJR and took the exam at the time and place that I did. God gives us memories so we have roses in December. It was so heart-warming.

I would like to hear from you about any subjects that you think should be addressed, perhaps in a syllabus meeting. We did it by mail but now it is all computerized. I still cling to the old IBM Wheel Writer 2 and you know what? It never crashes.

73, Duncan

duncankreamer@yahoo.com

THE SECRETARY NEEDS NOMINATIONS AND ENDORSEMENTS FOR DIRECTORS OF ODD NUMBERED DISTRICTS FOR THE TERM 2005-2006. Nomination period ends 10/31/2004.

The present Directors may be nominated:

- DIST. 1,** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont: **Mort Bardfield, W1UQ.**
DIST. 3, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, D.C: **Paul Gerbracht, W3QPP.**
DIST. 5, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas: **Charles Stanton, W5LBU.**
DIST. 7, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Alaska: **Frank Piskur, K7FP.**
DIST. 9, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin: **Gilbert Kowols, W9BUB.**
-

OOTC MEETINGS ON THE AIR

EUROPEAN CHAPTER:

SSB 7:30 UTC 3632 kHz - NCS DJ5ND Tuesday
SSB 10:00 UTC 7092 kHz - NCS DJ2XB Tuesday
CW 17:30 UTC Tuesday (DL1MEB) 3576.5 kHz

U.S.A

Chapter 2 (CA) Tuesday, 2330 UTC 3917 kHz W6HV NCS
AZ CH: Tuesday, 1600 local 3913 kHz KJ7KL NCS
N.East: Thursday, 1330 local 7230 kHz K2VNM NCS
So. California: Tues, 1630 local 3917 kHz W6HV NCS
CH82 E. TN & SW. VA: Sun, 9:00PM E. 145.110 mHz Down
National CW: Friday, 1700 UTC on 14050 kHz

SUPPLIES AVAILABLE – Price includes postage.

OOTC BADGE - \$7 - \$9 - \$9.50 Order info on page 23
OOTC IRON-ON JACKET PATCH - \$5.00
126 OOTC Blue on gold 1" Dia. Logo stamps, \$3.00
OOTC 3" Round Mylar OOTC Sticker - \$1.00
Replacement Pins 40, 50, 60, 70, \$3.50.
80 yr pin free, courtesy Duncan Creamer, W1GAY.

ALTERNATE DELIVERY OF SPARK GAP TIMES

SPARK GAP TIMES (PDF format) is available as an attachment to a E-mail message. Request activation by sending a message to ootc@ootc.us. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view. Acrobat Reader can be downloaded free at: <http://www.adobe.com>.

Please keep your e-mail address up-to-date with headquarters and set up acceptance of ootc@sbcglobal.net if you have a "Spam" program or your service provider maintains an acceptance list. Your service provider should accept attachment size up to 500K to receive the SGT attachment. Some previous issues of Spark Gap Times are viewable in PDF format on the club website <http://www.ootc.us>.

LIFETIME DUES AVAILABLE

Under age 75, fee is \$150, between 75 & 79 it is \$125, 80 & 84 \$100, 85 & 89 \$75, 90 & 94 \$50, 95 & 99 \$25, 100 or over FREE. New members must add \$5 initiation fee.

"SK" RECORDS

We often do not receive notice of the death of a member or the date of death. We are indebted to Bill Wellborn, K4CLA #3418. He searches nationwide for death records and often finds many identical names. The last 4 digits of the Social Security number will narrow the search. If you have no objection, send an E-mail to ootc@ootc.us or a post card with the last four digits of your Social Security number to OOTC Inc. 3191 Darvany Dr. Dallas TX 75220-1611. Our new member application asks for this information.

Thank you. Secretary, W5JNK.



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GETTING AN AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE IN 1930

by Len Yerger, K6SS, #1859 (formerly, W3BTQ)

After going through the crystal set and one-tube receiver building stages, I talked my father into buying me a Pilot Super Wasp Kit so that I could explore the short waves. The year was 1930 and I was thirteen years old. Little did I know what events would follow!

The Super Wasp was a four-tube receiver with a tuned RF stage, a pretty new development on short waves. A storage battery for the filaments and "B" and "C" batteries were required. Everything considered, the kit was a pretty big package for a kid who really didn't know how to solder.

After several weeks of effort the Super Wasp began working. It wasn't easy, kits and instructions weren't as fully developed as they are now. Also, there were many plug-in coils to cover the mysterious short wave spectrum. Only a coil combination and dial setting could determine a rough approximation of frequency.

After a few weeks of short wave listening, the 80-meter amateur phone band was discovered. Memory is a bit hazy, but it seems as if the phone stations were on the low end of the band and the code stations higher. In those days 80 meters was a busy band, but who and what those stations were was my problem. I could tell where the voice stations were located, and even heard one locally, but the identity of the operator escaped me. The miracle by this time held me in its grip, but what could a young teenager do about it?

Some time later my mother took me to Philadelphia on the train for my dental appointment. After the appointment, we went to the Wannamaker's store. While my mother shopped, I waited in the book and magazine department. Wonder of wonders, there in the magazine section was a white, paper covered booklet, "How to Become a Radio Amateur". There at last was the answer to my big question.

The technical requirements outlined in the booklet were pretty tough for me, since I had hardly any knowledge of basic electricity, and didn't know anyone who did. The code part I could learn somehow, at least so I believed.

An old telegraph key was located, a code practice oscillator built, and the code memorized. Then began the business of sending to myself and trying to recognize an occasional letter or two on the air. After a few weeks I found a word or two forming in my many pages of trying to copy the code. As far as I was concerned my sending was fine, the learners usual belief.

About this time I reached an unusual conclusion, perhaps reached by others also. Since I couldn't copy the code stations I believed they must have all been

(continued on next page)

sending considerably more than ten words per minute, the then required rate. The fallacy of this conclusion was proved shortly thereafter when my patient mother took me to Philadelphia to the FCC office to take the test. Her wait for me was a short one. Now, I did indeed know how ten words per minute sounded!

I was determined then to really lick the code problem. Back I went copying many pages of very little. The ham abbreviations, being unknown to me, didn't help matters. Finally I began to copy fairly complete QSOs, and figured out the ham operating procedures.

Back I went to Philadelphia. I passed the code test with no difficulty but wished that I had learned more about the theory. While I waited at home for the examination results, the passing days convinced me I had failed. Such was not true, however, for the happy day came when my big certificate arrived, proclaiming to all that I was a licensed radio amateur.

In my youthful ignorance I assumed that a station license would automatically follow the operators license. My experience filling out the many, many forms of the grownups lives had not yet started. While I patiently waited for the station license, I built the booklet's described TNT transmitter using a 210 tube with a 500-volt supply. A friendly radio serviceman who knew nothing about ham radio but could follow the booklet's directions erected an off-center fed antenna.

Finally, in accordance with instructions, attempts were made to tune the transmitter. I never got far because each time I turned on the power supply switch the 281 rectifier plates turned red and a house fuse would blow out. This operation did not seem proper, but what could I do?

About this time I heard the name of a local radio amateur, my first one. I called him on the telephone and he invited me over to see his station. He probably didn't realize how soon I would arrive, within a few moments I had parked my bicycle in front of his house. His station was completely home built. The transmitter was a crystal controlled oscillator, buffer, and a 211D final amplifier (all rack mounted), a real 100 watt station. Such a rig overwhelmed me.

The OM looked at my certificate and shortly thereafter I was working my first station, a CW contact on 80 meters. I then was told a separate application was required to obtain my station license.

From a description of my transmitter difficulty, the OM, W3AOP, concluded that my filter condensers were shorted. He dropped by my shack and cured the difficulty by removing the condensers, assuring me that I could operate without filters until I could obtain others. He then tuned the rig and by listening to the tone of the receiver over the 80 meter band somehow set the frequency of the self excited transmitter.

(continued on next page)

PAGE 9 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

W3AOP also had another call sign for portable operation, a popular procedure in those days. This call was W3BNV, which he immediately used by making a contact with my very own station. He then left me with the station ready to go and permission to use W3BNV.

Since I didn't know my frequency, I would answer a CQ anywhere in the band. This procedure was fairly successful, since it was common practice to tune the whole band for an answer to a CQ. It was a long time before I dared to change the transmitter frequency by listening to the sounds of the blocked receiver. Soon the mail delivered my station license. W3BTQ and I became partners in the exciting years of ham radio to follow. (Photo on Page 21)

HARRY D. THOMASON, JR., W1FKD, #4264

Born July 1, 1934 Austin TX. Spouse Laura. U.S. Navy E9 1953-1976, Retired. W5BZU-1953. Worked in Navy communications on aircraft in the '60's.

LOWELL V. (BOB) STEELE, N8HGL, #4265

Born June 1, 1940 Amelia VA on a tobacco farm. Spouse Chris N8ZJZ. U.S. Navy 1959-1973, USNR 1973 to 2000 E7/RMC. Served on 12 Naval ships, (ARs, AD, MSCs, MCS, MSOs, DLG, CVA, LPA, LKA) and as Naval Communications Instructor.

Employed by the Department of the Navy 1973-1991 working on Communications/Electronics. Retired after serving as the Director of a Naval detachment 1991-1977. Member of Navy MARS station call NNN0LLL. Performing volunteer time with the American Red Cross and 911 center. Serve on several local committees. n8hgl@arri.net

GERALD D. SKLOOT, K1NY, #4266

Born February 15, 1949 Brooklyn, NY. Spouse Janis. 1st call WN2FJX 1962, then WB2FJX. fjx1@aol.com

MARTIN WENZEL, W2GF, #4267

Born January 28, 1945 Elmira NY. Spouse Kathleen 5 children. Novice 1958, WV2CIE, WA2CIE, KG2LU. Army Capt. 1965-1968. w2gf@aol.com

ROBERT L. KOONCE, W3GOU, #4268

Born January 4, 1937 Phoenix, AZ. Spouse Jennifer 2 children. K8ZFO,
(continued on next page)

PAGE 10 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

W3JUU, W6DGQ. Navy 1955-1959, USAF 1959-1975 TSgt. Served aboard submarine USS Redfish (SS-395) December 1955 to March 1959 as TM2. Discharged Navy March 1959. Joined the Air Force August 1959 as a Ground Radio Maintenance Technician. 1960 stationed on a radar site in Bellefontaine, OH as a radio maintenance technician maintaining ground to air communication equipment.

Transferred to the USAF Security Service in 1961 as an Electronic Maintenance Technician. Remained there for rest of military career, retired 1975 and entered the commercial world as Systems Engineer. In February 1980 to government employment as station engineer of the 1,000,000 Watt VLF station NSS Annapolis, MD.

Returned to commercial world as a System Engineer in 1984. As of 2003 continuing as System Engineer. Active member of Navy Marine Corps MARS NNN0KNJ. w3gu@cablespeed.com Photo Jan SGT Pg21.

ROBERT E. ELMORE, W5JHJ, #4269

Born September 28, 1922 Oklahoma City, OK. Spouse Jody 2 children. W5JHJ since 1939. Army AF 1943-1946 SGT. btfsplk_w5jhj@telepath.com

ALFRED M. FITZSIMONS, W3YRS, #4270

Born December 31, 1938, Baltimore, MD. 3 Children. WN3YRS-1954. USAAF 1962-1984 Lt. Col. Retired. 1st contact was 1954 on 40 meters with Harvey Wells TBS50D/SX71 and dipole. Upgraded to Technician in 1975 and worked 6 meters extensively from 1955 to 1962 when I entered USAF. Used the Harvey Wells with a 3-element beam and worked California and VE1EF plus many other states.

My USAF experience includes a presentation on Aerial Navigation to the Savannah Amateur Radio Club and activities with the Sacramento ARC and Honolulu ARC. I have call letter plates from both CA & HI. I'm living in the house I grew up in (from age 7) where I built and experienced the thrill of my first crystal radio. I am using my first bedroom as my ham shack now. al.fitzsimons@att.net

STANLEY K. HOFFMAN, K3FOB, #4271

Born August 4, 1935 York, PA. Spouse Victoria. US Army 1958-1960 PFC. KN3FOB-11/12/1963. skhl687@gte.net

GARY M. HARRISON, KB5KST, #4272

Born July 3, 1946 Rainelle, WV. Spouse Cathy 2 children. US Army Signal Corps 1968-1997 LTC. harrisongm@yahoo.com

PAGE 11 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

VASILE GIURGIU, YO6EX, #4273

Born January 1, 1943 Romania. Club station 1958, YO6EX-1961.

RICHARD G. DAVY, G3XVF, #4274

Born July 30, 1946 Norwich, Norfolk, England. Spouse Carol G8BVW, 2 children, 4 grandchildren. RAF Watton Regular.

I first became interested in amateur radio in 1957 when I tuned in Morse code signals on the short wave bands on my parents B.C. receiver.

Joined the Air Training Corps in 1959 to train as a radio operator, (Cans on, pencil in right hand, left hand on bug, and changing from RX to TX with a foot switch.) In 1962 I was at RAF Watton as Radio Op/Radio Tech, also worked on Collins transmitters and receivers. Received amateur radio license G3XVF in 1967, obtained two 40 WPM Morse Awards in 1970.

My favorite mode has always been CW, even these days still operate 99% CW and 1% SSB. One of my favorite QSL cards is from Stew Perry W1BB (OOTC #218) confirming a CW QSO I had with him on 160m. G stations were only allowed to run 10 watts on top band in those days. Have run own business for 25 years, but retired two years ago. g3xvf@btinternet.com

Editor note: The W1BB call is now assigned to the "Stew Perry Memorial Radio Club". Go to QRZ.com and enter call W1BB. It has a copy of original "modified" QSL card and info. The e-mail address of the club is k1zm@aol.com

M. MARK JACQUINOT, K2DL, #4275

Born Feb. 17, 1948 Ottumwa IA. Spouse Shobha markj-nyc@att.net

GEORGE L. WILKINSON, N7MRI, #4276

Born May 27, 1922 Zantha, Mo. Spouse Carmen K7WXY (SK), 7 children. W7LQN-1947. Other calls: K6CCZ, KR6RY USN (CW) 1940-1946 RM1C, USAF 1949-1963 TSgt. KTK/KFS 1964-1968, KPH 1968-1978.

MYRON L. CHERRY, K4YA, #4277

Born December 16, 1949 Centerville, TN. Spouse Kim, 3 children. Other calls: WM4Z, WB4SFX, WN4BFZ. Civil Air Patrol 1963, call "Blue Chip 21".

PAGE 12 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

JOHN USCINOWSKI, KE2O, #4278

Born June 23, 1915 Yonkers, NY. Spouse Rose 2 children. W2JMR-1936.

ARMAND R. PILOTTE, W7IG, #4279

Born July 1, 1941 Manchester, NH. Spouse Millie-W7MIP, 2 children. USN 1959 to 1985 E-6 (First Class Petty Officer). w7ig@earthlink.net

ROBERT J. SHUMAN, K8SPE, #4280

Born August 4, 1942 Detroit, MI. Army 1961-65. K8SPE-1960

EDWARD J. REINHART, JR., K9PLM, #4281

Born March 26, 1943 Chicago, IL. Spouse Bonnie. KN9PLM/K9PLM-1958, KB9VL-1998, K9PLM-2000. ejreinhardt@aol.com

MORRIS WILEY JONES, NM4R, #4282

Born March 8, 1923 Atlanta GA. Spouse Dollie Ruth 3 children. Signal Corps 1943-1946 1st Lt. 1st call N4AAW. nm4r@juno.com

DAVE PAVEL, W7YP, #4283

Born April 25, 1920 Weirton WV. Spouse SK, one child. Radioman/Gunner U.S. Navy Air Service, Pacific Theater WW2 1942-45 RM1C. W9PUB-1940. 33 years Radioman for large police & fire department, the last 19 years as chief of communications. Member QCWA. davew7yp@wyoming.com

AMAND DE FUSCO, W1WKO, #4284

Born May 5, 1919 Providence, RI. Spouse lola 2 children. W1WKO since 1952. w1wko@juno.com

CHARLES H. MILLER, K3ARN, #4285

Born January 11, 1940 Frederick, MD. U.S. Army 1958-1962 PFC. KN3ARN 1957. cmiller7919@juno.com

GEORGE YOUNG, KZ1H, #4286

Born May 19, 1924 New York City. Spouse Mildred 3 children. Signal Corps Intelligence 1943-1946 T/3. W2MDE-1939. (Continued on next page)

PAGE 13 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

The Mecca of radio enthusiasts in 1937 was "Radio Row" (Cortland Street) and adjacent environs in downtown Manhattan, NYC. There were radios galore being manufactured on 2nd and 3rd stories of some fairly seedy buildings in this area. They went mostly by unrecognizable names. Two come to mind, "DOERLE" and EILEN. They ran ads in shortwave magazines and you could go directly upstairs and purchase your state of the art regen/superregen right off the assembly line. The prices ranged from \$5 to \$30 for the deluxe model. The receivers covered 5 to 3000 meters with plug-in coils. My father chose an "EILEN" because the company owner and only salesman looked like he could use the cash. It cost \$19.95. This radio introduced me to Morse code.

We lived in a row of apartment houses in Corona, Queens, NYC. I discovered a strange wire just outside my second story bedroom window, which led to some other houses, then disappeared. Curiosity then led me to connect a single earphone between the wire and a steam radiator pipe. Lo and behold I could hear a humming noise. I put a homemade Morse key in series with the earphone and practiced sending Morse. I subsequently barged in on many hams around town. They were all very cordial and happy to show off their rigs.

Cliff, W2HDK worked for the telephone Co. and I visited him quite often. I told my mother that he offered me a coke now and then and since she was not too hip on ham parlance I would tell her I was off to "Coca-Cola's". He had a young blonde wife who I swore was the most beautiful woman in the world. I met her many years later in social circumstances.

Another was W2KAP, Frank Gow, who was chief engineer of one of the big networks. He had his very elegant transmitter built, plated, painted at the office. It had RF decks with Taylor T40 pairs for each band and variable crystals in the oscillators. All this in a finished basement that looked like the back cover of QST. He also had one of the first MIMS Signal Squirters that coupled the antenna to the feed line inductively with closely spaced large copper loops. Frank was a good friend of MIMS. He allowed me to listen on his National HRO at times when he was elsewhere. His wife served me a piece of watermelon and that remained his nickname and code word to my mother - "going to watermelon's, mom".

W2 Apples Potatoes & Tomatoes was Gene Turney who headed Kenyon Transformers Sales Dept. As one might expect, he ran a Kilowatt. His wire antenna used Johnson Q bars. The transmitter was unusual since it was built into a cubical wood rack of highly polished lightwood. Most of the components were exposed and the meters were large backlit square Weston meters. Gene was nice enough to provide stadium seating for an audience of gawking young hams and hams-to-be who remained quietly tantalized while basking in the purple pulsations of 866 rectifiers and listening to the signals of W10XDA, the Schooner Morrissey, somewhere in the Arctic. Awesome!

(continued on next page)

PAGE 14 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

In April of 1939 I took my test at the FCC office at 641 Washington Street, downtown NYC and became W2MDE. My father bought me a Hammarlund Comet Pro (Plug in coils with shield cans) from the aforementioned W2APT. I built an oscillator/transmitter using a type 59 tube.

Luckily in 1939 the New York World's Fair was opening and I (age 14) was invited to join the W2USA radio club that was in one of the main attractions of the fair, the communications building. Oscar W2KU was chief op and my boss. Little did I know I was assistant to the chief engineer of Pilot Radio. We handled a lot of traffic for the fair visitors and kept the station on the air during the winter when the fair closed between summer sessions. This was not hard to take since all the equipment was top of the line and very much like my pictures of heaven. Art Lynch, sales manager of the National Co. was director of the club. Many companies donated their best exciters, amplifiers, receivers, etc. We had 100TH's under glass in a 600 watt National Xmtr, a Skyriver diversity receiver from Hallicrafters, two vertical 20 meter Yagis, etc. And visiting hams were welcomed to try their hand. One of the perks (as if I needed it) was being able to visit any part of the fair at any time with my VIP pass. I lived close by and made good use of the pass.

At 16 I graduated from High School and went to work for a large patent law firm on Park Avenue as a clerk. One of the big clients was Hazeltine, noted for the "RCA/Hazeltine" licensed tags on the back of many early radios. Hazeltine was still battling patent infringements from the year one.

When I was much younger I read a book called "SOS to the rescue" about the first use of radio in a rescue at sea where Jack Binns, radio operator, captured world headlines. I thought I might faint when my first paycheck at Hazeltine was signed by Jack Binns, Treasurer.

At 17 I was made chief inspector of Hazeltine's first wartime production line (Navy microwave wavemeters). The company normally concerned itself only with research and patents but with the war, things changed.

When I turned 18, Mr. Bailey of the ARRL became head of the Bureau of Scientific Research and Development in Washington, DC. invited me to become a member of the Army Intelligence Service when I was drafted and I accepted. I've been retired for 16 years and still active on the bands.

WILLIAM T. BURKE, W1LDG, #4287

Born October 21, 1923 Boston MA. Spouse Therese 4 children. U.S. Army Signal Corps 1943-1946 Sgt. W1LDG since 1936.

CEDRIC F. WALKER, K5CFW, #4288
(continued on next page)

PAGE 15 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

Born January 26, 1950 Los Angeles, CA. Spouse Julia 2 children. WN6GIN 1963 age 13, then KC5NLJ. Currently active on 20 meter PSK31. One son is KD5RWA. I am professor of Biomedical Engineering at Tulane University, New Orleans, LA. k5cfw@arri.net

MARTTI LAINE, OH2BH, #4289

Born November 19, 1946 Finland. Spouse Leena 2 children. Licensed at age 15. Later became an avid DX operator throughout most of ham career. Over the last 30 years have visited over 100 countries and helped introduce ham radio to many previously closed countries such as Albania, Myanmar, Palestine and Taiwan. In 1991 also arranged to provide a Yaesu equipped station to the ham group that I helped organize in Albania.

I was deeply involved in the development of the Nokia commercial wireless markets in Finland and in several Asian countries. At the same time during many travels, I always endeavored to organize and promote the cause of amateur radio in remote parts of the world. In May of 2002, I received the "Amateur Of The Year" award at the Dayton Convention.

The diminishing appeal of amateur radio presents a fresh challenge. The Amateur Radio Service seems to be at risk. The intake of new radio amateurs has come close to zero. Through Project Goodwill Albania 2003 and its sharing with the public, a novel approach was in the making. OH2BH was at it again.

Promoting Amateur Radio pro-actively, crystallizing its value set and sharing its worth with telecommunications and educational authorities as well as launching it systematically at the most suitable educational institutions all capture this simple but fresh concept in a nutshell. The issue is not at all how to do it in whatever country but how to come up with new thinking, with a new toolbox to inspire the world and to make the world see a need for change. The world has suddenly become a rather competitive place for Amateur Radio too.

So much is written about Project Goodwill Albania 2003 and hopefully many IARU societies will soon show up with their adoption of some of the elements now brought public, expressly for the benefit of further developing the Amateur Radio Service.

JAMES S. JOHNSTON, K0FNR, #4290

Born March 17, 1945 Trinidad, CO. Spouse Sheila, 3 children. KN0FNR 1961, upgraded to K0FNR in High School 1962. I let license lapse during college and just came back in 1999, got my K0FNR again. Army Sgt. 1968-1971. Having a ball starting over, getting the soldering iron hot again and playing with antennas.

(continued on next page)

PAGE 16 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

Started concentrating on really improving my klutzy CW, practice, practice, practice. Profession - Exploration Geologist, minerals. Married to Sheila for 38 years who supports my radio hobby.

DAVID W. REGO, W1GCA, #4291

Born October 2, 1929 Newton, MA. Widowed, 3 children. WN5RYX 1953. U.S. Naval Reserve 1952-55 Lt (jg). daverego@comcast.net

JAMES (JIM) VRIONI, N3JV, #4292

Born September 11, 1943 Steubenville OH which had closest hospital to Wier-ton, WV. Spouse Leigh, 2 children. KN8MNB-1958, K8MNB general class soon after, and W9HPL. Have original 20 WPM Extra class.

Attended DeVry Tech. Institute and while working full time at Western Electric/AT&T Network Systems/Lucent Technologies completed my BS and MBA degrees at night. Ended my 38 1/2 year career as Senior Engineer in transmissions systems technical support group.

I work mostly CW on 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters. Operate PSK-31 mainly on 20M. I enjoy QRP, rag chewing, special event stations and chasing lighthouses. Member ARRL, ARLHS(Amateur Radio Light House Society), FISTS, Flying Pigs QRP club and QRPARCI. jimv32@comcast.net

HAROLD HYMAN, W1IZQ, #4293

Born April 17, 1927 London England. G3IZQ-1952. Spouse Suzanne 3 children. Royal Air Force 1944-1947. I survived the Blitz during WW2 and served 3 years in India in 1946. This was my first introduction to radio communication. The hook was set!



A metallurgist by profession, spent many years in semiconductor engineering, from the early days of the transistor through the development of the IC. In 1963 I changed from engineering to sales and worked for a major U.S. provider of precious metals and semiconductor material. I lived several years in Italy where I met my American wife Suzanne. I came to live in the U.S. in 1974. We now live in Acton, MA. Active on the HF bands and can be found every morning (when not traveling) on the Ex-G Radio Club net on 14,336 at 1200Z. hymans@juno.com

JEROME V. McGINN, K8CFY, #4294

Born October 8 1924 Detroit, MI. Spouse Betty-N8SIH, 4 children. US Army T/5 1943-1946. KN6LJG-1951. As a kid I made crystal sets and always had a fascination for radio. My older brother did also and by the time I was in high school, many of his friends were radio hams and I got to know quite a bit about "shortwave radio". One ham helped me build my first "cigar box" power supply and a short-wave converter with plug-in coils. I was drafted out of high school for WW2 and took my basic training at Camp Gordon, GA where I got into radio. I already knew the Morse code before I was drafted into the service.

Several years after Army discharge I became KN6LJG in CA and when we moved back to Michigan received K8CFY, which I will never change. Most of my life has dealt with motorcycles, photography, amateur radio and travel. After my father died I took care of my mother and her many illnesses for 22 years. A few years after her death, I married (at age 70) Betty Powell KB8IXL, now N8SIH. She had been divorced 27 years and had 4 grown children with families of their own. I immediately gained a wife and instant family including grand children. I told her she had to marry me before I became an "old man" at 71. k8cfy@arrl.net

EUVALDO LYRA, PY2BLG, #3188

About two years ago I had the pleasure of coming across President Leland Smith, W5KL on 20 meter CW. On both occasions we had a long and pleasant chat. In addition to his chivalrous qualities of refined fellow and ham, he was also a remarkable CW operator. I'm sure the whole OOTC community is missing him very much.

SILENT KEY 8/11/2003 - ROBERT M. HISAMOTO, KL7AM, #3018

(Bob wrote this about 1992 when 84 years old)

Born 9/15/1908 Honolulu, HI. Spark Operator 1916 using my initials and in 1925 6CLJ and 6BDQ(portable). Other calls: U6CLJ, U6BDQ, HU6CLJ, HU6CLJ, HU6BDQ, OH6CLJ, OH6BDQ, K6CLJ, K6BDQ, W1CLJ, W1DW, W3RM, K5RYK (member Dallas TX ARC & Shreveport LA ARC), KL7EIT, then KL7AM. Former 7th District Director of OOTC John Trent KL7DG (SK) sponsored my membership in OOTC. I was not alone with my bootlegging. George Bambridge of Papeete (either Samoa or Tahiti – forget which) worked me using call BAM BAM BAM! Hal, our first President of QCWA Chapter 92 tells us he started out using bootleg calls. My wife Louisa is WL7BNX. I fathered 15 children, 7 have ham licenses making us a 9-ham family!

I am founder of JARL (Japanese Amateur Radio League) in 1925, and the father of all Japanese hams 1926, because in that year I was able to convince the Prime
(continued on next page)

Minister to accept no-code licenses for beginners. Prior to this, Japan was paranoid about spies and amateur radio was prohibited. Many unlicensed hams were caught and convicted as spies! Their proof? They were caught operating short wave transmitters, so they must be spies! Paranoid! These poor prisoners were beaten and tortured to confess that they were spies! I got them all out of prison with the help of the Prime Minister and ham radio became legal.

In Japan in 1977 my QSL card was going for \$10,000 when I visited that country. At present I am about 60,000 cards behind. I answer the QSL's in the order received. Some hams accuse me on the air saying they have sent 2 or 3 SASE cards with no QSL in return.

Life member ARRL, QCWA, Anchorage ARC, charter and life member JARL (1925). Member IRE, VWOA, OOTC, Dallas TX ARC, Shreveport LA ARC, Aurora Borealis ARC in North Pole AK, MIT ARC, Metropolitan ARC Melrose MA, Eastern Amateur Radio Association greater Boston MA area. Founder of McKinley (AK) high school ARC, charter member QCWA Chapter 92 Anchorage AK, Honorary member Puerto Rican ARC San Juan PR. Received WAC from ARRL in 1928 while HU6CLJ Honolulu HI.

Hold world record on low power communication. With 1 milliwatt (input) using UV199 as HU6CLJ from Honolulu to Johannesburg South Africa 0-A3B (Mark) at sunrise and sunset on daily schedule.

I went to MIT and Harvard graduate school of engineering and worked most of my life for the U.S. government in R&D that included weapons systems (submarines, airplanes, guided missiles, satellites, and Q clearance for atomic energy applications all classified projects. I have designed and done research and development on Radars, Sonars, Madars, Nidars, Ladars, ECMS, Etc. 1955-56 worked on Electronic Countermeasures R&D for SAC Barksdale AFB Shreveport LA, 1956 Graduate studies SMU Dallas while in charge of 3 US Navy Guided Missile Instrumentation systems at Chance Vought Aircraft Co. at Grand Prairie near Dallas. I also finished the math Advance Theory and Probabilities, US Navy graduate school while doing R&D on the BOMARC missiles, the minuteman ICBM, the STOL supersonic jet fighter, etc, at Boeing Aircraft Co. in Seattle.

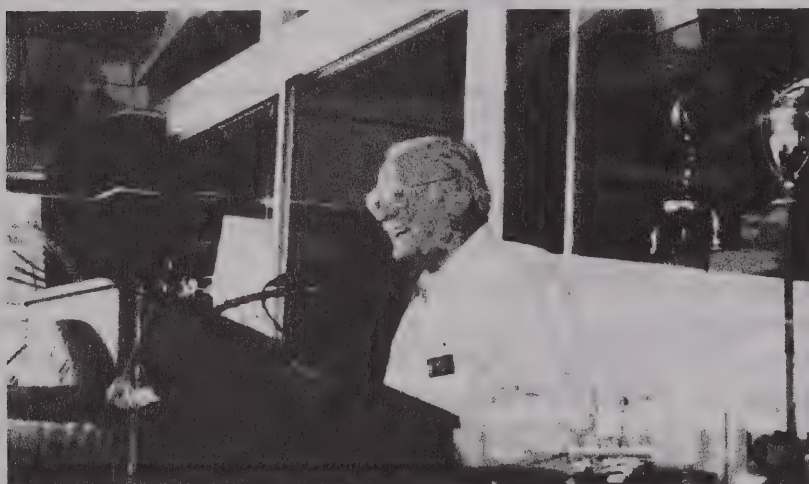
I did research and development: Ultra Sonic Corp, Cambridge MA on Mid-course Guided Missile Projects for Regulus Submarines; Sylvania Electric Co. Salem MA on Flat TV tube about 1/8 inch thick, a flexible screen that could be unrolled and hung on a wall and I still have samples of these thin flat TV "tubes." (Circa 1955)

At 84 years old I am daily promoting "Peace, Not War, One World, One People" as the primary net control station for the World Wide World Peace Net on 3 bands. We are very low profile, low key. We have not advertised in magazines, newspapers, etc. I do not believe in war, but we have a right to defend you and ourselves.

PAGE 19 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

MEMBERS "SILENT KEY" on record 5/25/2004 NOTE: Some calls may have been reissued.

Name	Birthdate	Last Call 1st Call	When SK	Reported by:
JULIUS M. HOFFER	B:12/22/1922	W1DL #3779 W8UFH-1939	SK:MISSING	QST APRIL 2004 P.100
BENNETT R. ADAMS JR	B:12/14/1908	K4EZ #3363 4EV-1926	SK:MISSING	QST APRIL 2004 P.100
EILAND E. HELMS	B:03/08/1923	W4LAN #2427 W4WNY-1952	SK:MISSING MILITARY-1942	QST APRIL 2004 P.100
ERNEST S. MOORE	B:12/13/1913	W8NCD #1840 W8NXD-1933	SK:MISSING	QST APRIL 2004 P.100
ANTHONY J. ELIA	B:09/11/1914	K4EMN #3414 W8ITA-1933	SK:03/10/2004	DUNCAN KREAMER, W1GAY
CARL F. CHRISTIAN	B:05/17/1929	KF4JI #3971 KN1RJH-1961	SK:09/03/2003	POST CARD FROM FAMILY
BRUCE D. CUMMONS	B:07/24/1924	W8ZNV #3641 W8ZNV-1946	SK:MISSING MILITARY-1944	QST MAY 2004 P.100
ROBERT J. MC KIBBIN	B:07/18/1940	K0GUY #3704 KN0GUY-1956	SK:MISSING	QCWA JOURNAL SPRING 2004 P.54
FRANK L. JAMISON JR	B:08//16/1932	W5YSM #3523 W5YSM-1953	SK:MISSING	QCWA JOURNAL SPRING 2004 P.54
ROGER B. JOLLY	B:08/07/1922	WA5ZFQ #2983 WA5ZFQ-1969	SK:MISSING MILITARY-1942	QCWA JOURNAL SPRING 2004 P.54
CHARLES F. KLAUE JR	B:01/12/1920	W8KF #2365 W8POR-1936	SK:MISSING	QCWA JOURNAL SPRING 2004 P.54
ROBERT G. RICKEY	B:12/06/1928	NF6P #3252 W5EWJ-1954	SK:05/12/2004	TROY WIDEMAN, W6HV, DIRECTOR DISTRICT 6

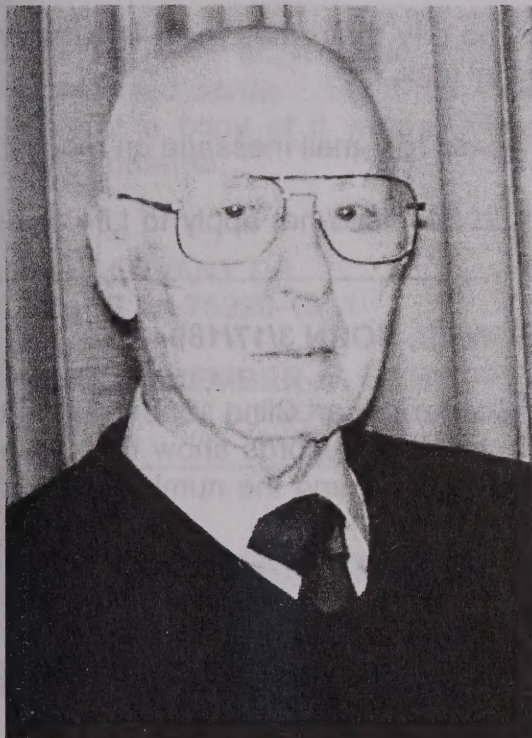


Harvey A. Pearson W6JGL #3404, President OOTC Chapter 2, opening the meeting at the Long Beach CA Yacht Club April 4, 2004.

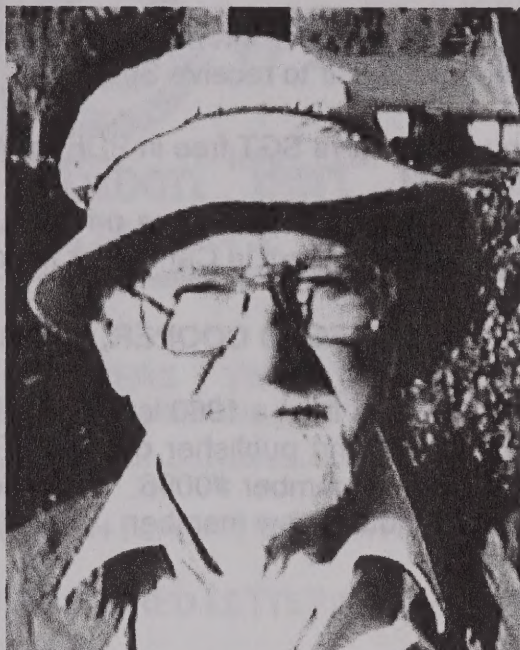


Lyman Beman W6GP #3934, Secretary Treasurer OOTC Chapter 2 giving Financial report at the April 2004 meeting at the Long Beach CA Yacht Club April 4, 2004.

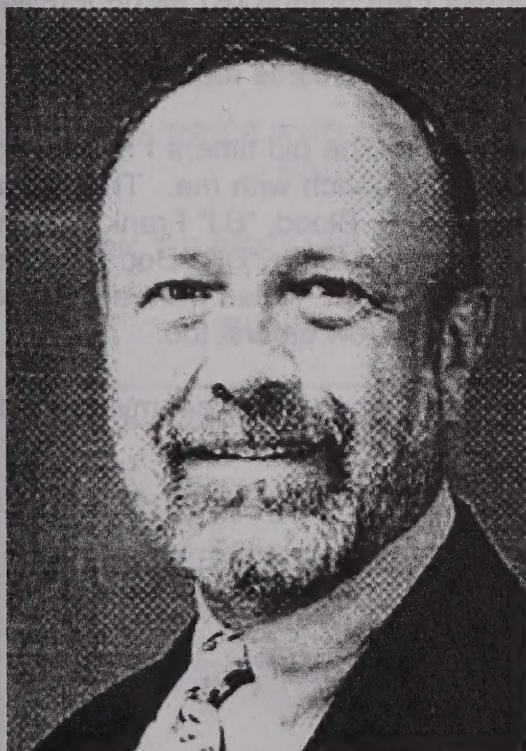
Armand DeFusco, W1WKO, #4284



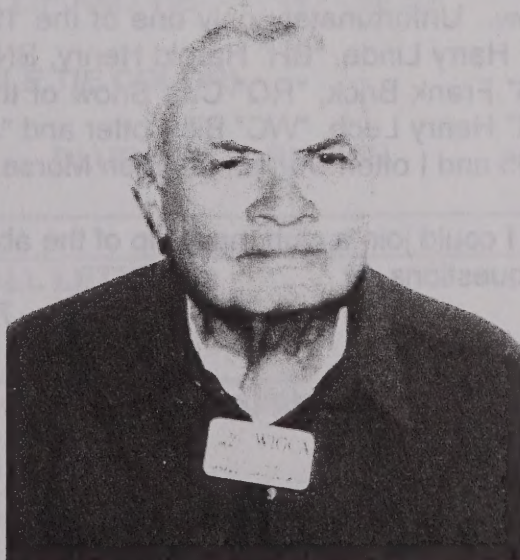
Len Yerger, K6SS, #1859



Cedric F Walker, K5CFW, #4288



David W. Rego, W1GCA, #4291



PAGE 22 VOL.41, NO.3 SPARK GAP TIMES JULY 2004

NOTICE TO INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS (NO U.S. ZIP CODE)

After July 1, 2004, International members who pay their dues must include an additional \$5/year to receive Spark Gap Times by mail.

You can receive SGT free in PDF format attached to e-mail message on request.

Does not apply if paid dues prior to July 1, 2004. Does not apply to Life Dues holders and members in Canada or Mexico.

TELFORD COOPER, 2DR, LATER W2IL, BORN 3/17/1894

Here is quote from a 1960 letter from Telfer Cooper to Earl Cline 1956 President, the originator and publisher of Spark Gap Times. Club records show that Telfer was assigned member #0096. "Tel" did not join OOTC and the number was assigned to another new member.

Dear Earl,

Thanks for prompt service. My original station license gives the call 2DR and 1912 Operator License number 1567.

To me \$10 is now a lot of money. Usually there are get-togethers, often out of town and this just means more spending. Guess I am getting old as generally I don't get much if any kick out of these affairs. I'd have to be sold before paying ten bucks. I rejected the Quarter Century wireless deal for the same reason.

I do enjoy talking with and better yet meeting any of the old timers I happen to know. Unfortunately only one of the 1903 gang is in touch with me. There was "BF" Harry Linde, "BH" Harold Henry, "BN" Al King, "BD" F Blood, "BJ" Frank Jordan, "PS" Frank Brick, "RQ" Cap Snow of the wrecking tug Merrit, "DR" Doc Hudson, "HX" Henry Leob, "WC" Bill Cotter and "JR" John Rowland. These were all prior to 1905 and I often worked them on Morse. There were a few others, too.

If I could join a club made up of the above old friends they would get my \$10 with no questions, hi.

73, Tel

OOTC DUES ARE STILL \$10.

THE BEST BUY AROUND!

Order your own OOTC badge,
1/16" X 2" X 3"

Order with white background and
either BLACK or RED logo and letter-
ing. Beveled edge gives either a
black or red border. Send this order
blank or a copy of it with check or
money order to:

OOTC
3191 DARVANY DR.
DALLAS TX 75220-1611



W5JNK

Milbert "Bert" Wells
DALLAS, TEXAS

PUT MY MEMBER # UNDER THE CALL LETTERS YES _____ NO _____
(IF YOU DO NOT CHOOSE, THE MEMBER NUMBER WILL BE OMITTED)

WHITE WITH BLACK LETTERING

(CIRCLE ONE OF THESE)

WHITE WITH RED LETTERING

(WHITE WITH BLACK LETTERING WILL BE SENT UNLESS YOU CHOOSE)

CHOOSE ONE OF THE THREE BELOW (Circle price)

BADGE WITH LOCKING SAFETY PIN BACK - \$7.00

BADGE WITH PLASTIC POCKET CLIP - - - - - \$9.00

(CIRCLE PRICE AND CIRCLE TIE COLOR)

BADGE WITH BOLO CLIP AND TIE - - - - - \$9.50

(BLACK TIE SENT UNLESS YOU CIRCLE TIE COLOR)

BLACK

RED

BLUE

BROWN

Print your CALL LETTERS:

Print how you want the NAME line to appear:

Print your CITY & STATE or Print WHAT YOU WANT to appear



OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB

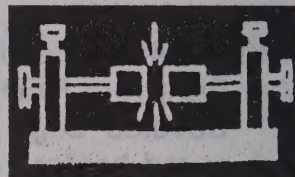
3191 DARVANY DR. DALLAS, TX 75220-1611

PH: 214-352-4743 E-MAIL: ootc@ootc.us

THIS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET

AT: <http://www.ootc.us>



(PLEASE PRINT ALL ITEMS CLEARLY)

Name _____ Present call _____

Address _____
 Number & Street _____ City _____ State/Province _____ Code _____ Country(if not U.S.) _____

Year of 1st 2-way Ham wireless contact _____ Nickname/Handle _____ PHONE# _____

My first amateur call was _____ Other calls _____ E-Mail _____

My first 2-way wireless contact was by Commercial Radio(☐) Military Radio(☐) Year _____ Describe it _____

Date of Birth _____ Birthplace _____
 Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

NEW MEMBER ENROLLMENT FEE \$5.00. DUES ARE \$10.00 A YEAR OR LIFETIME DUES \$150.00.
IF YOUR AGE IS BETWEEN 75 & 79 PAY \$125, 80 & 84 \$100, 85 & 89 \$75, 90 & 94 \$50, 95 & 99 \$25, 100+Free.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2004, IF MEMBERS WITHOUT A U.S. ZIP CODE (INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS, EXCEPT CANADA & MEXICO) WANT TO RECEIVE SPARK GAP TIMES BY MAIL, THEY MUST PAY AN ADDITIONAL \$5 A YEAR. MEMBERS MAY RECEIVE SGT BY PDF E-MAIL ATTACHMENT, FREE ON REQUEST.

FAMILY DUES RATE, Additional enrollments \$5.00 each and dues \$5.00 each per year.
All family rate members must have same mailing address. One mailing to one address, one Spark Gap Times,

Annual dues may be paid for any number of years. All funds must be acceptable at a U.S. Bank.

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS NOTE: Please remit with (1) American Express money order, or (2) Check drawn on a U.S. Bank, if a branch of a U.S. bank accessible, or (3) if foreign bank, must add \$20 collection fee which is charged by our bank, or (4) U. S. Postage Stamps, or (5) International Reply Coupons – one coupon is worth 80 cents when used to mail internationally - send 13 for ten dollar dues, or (6) U.S. Currency.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

One must have had two-way wireless communication at least 40 years previous to filing an OOTC membership application. OOTC recognizes your first two-way communication whether through amateur, commercial or military operation. Where possible please provide proof of such operation. Full membership in OOTC requires that you have a valid amateur station or operator license at the time of application, or Associate member if no license but qualified.

OOTC wishes to have extended information about each member, his/her activities and background. Such information becomes a permanent and important part of your record as a member of OOTC, making it possible for us to write of your life work and experiences. We would appreciate a photograph, B&W or color. Send a biography and/or any story suitable for publication in Spark Gap Times on separate sheet(s) of paper. Unless you advise otherwise, filing this application is permission to publish your information in Spark Gap Times.

First name of spouse _____ Number of children _____ Spouse's call(if any) _____ Widow(er) _____

Military Branch(s) _____ service from _____ to _____, Rank _____

I heard about OOTC from _____ Sponsored by _____

Secretary will sponsor if you have none.

Your Signature _____ Last 4 digits of your social security number _____